

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current
scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

1-4
621524

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

TVS-16

RECEIVED
THE VEGETABLES APR 30 1938

April 27, 1938.

Summary

Market prices of new potatoes and a large number of truck crops advanced during late March and early April but are now generally lower than prices a year ago.

The recent general rise in vegetable prices was attributed by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics partly to a slackening in the rate of marketings, occasioned by unfavorable weather conditions, and partly, perhaps, to a seasonal rise in demand for these products. For some commodities, prices are lower than a year ago, largely because of the increased production and reduced purchasing power of consumers. For those products on which prices are now slightly higher than last year the output this season is either considerably smaller or has been delayed by unfavorable weather conditions.

In most instances, the seasonal trend of vegetable prices from about mid-April to mid-summer through early fall is sharply downward. If weather conditions prove favorable for plant growth, it is possible that these seasonal price trends this year will be accentuated somewhat, particularly since consumer purchasing power is considerably below that of last year. For a few, such as cauliflower, spinach, and sweetpotatoes, the usual price trend is upward until mid-summer.

Prices of new potatoes rose seasonally during the latter part of March but, because of increased marketings from the southern States, had lost most of the gain by mid-April. Present prospects indicate a new potato crop this season only slightly smaller than that of last year, which, together with larger supplies of old stock and lower consumer buying power, has caused market prices to average

nearly 25 percent lower than those of a year earlier. Shipping-point prices are nearly 50 percent below those of last year. Prices of old-stock potatoes have remained fairly stable in recent weeks, except for the slight rise in prices of Idaho Russets.

Mid-April prices of asparagus, green beans, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, eggplant, peppers, and spinach were lower than a month earlier, while prices of other kinds of vegetables were higher. Lettuce prices have advanced sharply to an exceptionally high level because of unusual developments in the California-Arizona lettuce deal this season.

As compared with a year ago, prices of asparagus, green lima beans, old-crop beets, cauliflower, lettuce, onions (at New York City), and western green peas have been higher, while prices of all other vegetables recently have been lower. Prices of a few products, such as cucumbers, peppers, and spinach, have been lower, even though production of the early crops is indicated to be slightly less than production last year.

Preliminary estimates of planted acreages of early vegetables and prospective acreages of some intermediate and late crops for fresh market shipment indicate a combined acreage of 20 truck crops about 3 percent larger than in 1937 and 17 percent larger than the recent 10-year average. Compared with last season, acreage increases are indicated for all of the important vegetables reported to date except cantaloups, cauliflower, cucumbers, green peas, and spinach.

On the other hand, the combined prospective acreage of six important canning vegetables, for which information is available, is indicated to be 13 percent less than the planted acreage last year. Sharp acreage decreases are indicated for cucumbers, pickles, sweet corn, and tomatoes; a small decrease

for green peas, and slight increases for snap beans and beets. The harvested acreage of California spinach for canning is expected to be about 40 percent below that of 1937, while the contracted acreage of cabbage for kraut is expected to be increased slightly.

POTATOES

Prices of new potatoes at central markets rose sharply during the last half of March but lost most of the rise by the middle of April as marketings increased. With marketings increasing seasonally it is probable that new potato prices will follow the usual seasonal trend which is sharply downward until mid-summer. Prices of old potatoes have been fairly stable in recent weeks except for Idaho Russets which have risen slightly.

The production of new potatoes in the first section of early States, Florida and the lower valley of Texas, is indicated to be 4,600,000 bushels this season, compared with 4,592,000 bushels in 1937 and 3,539,000 bushels the 1927-36 average. The increase was due largely to an increase in acreage. Shipments from the south Florida area are about completed, while those from the northern area and from the lower valley of Texas have just passed the peak for the season. On the other hand the carlot movement of new potatoes from Alabama, Louisiana and California has just begun. Total movement of new potatoes consequently reached nearly 1,500 cars during the week ended April 16, compared with about 1,100 cars the previous week and 400 cars the average weekly movement in March. Present conditions indicate that the weekly movement of new potatoes will increase sharply from now to the first part of June.

Based upon the indicated plantings and condition reports as of April 1, a new potato crop slightly smaller than a year earlier is in prospect for the second section of the early States. This group includes Alabama, Louisiana and California - from which shipments are just getting under way - and Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina and other Texas. Except for California all of these States show a decrease in acreage planted to potatoes this season, but the condition of the crop is slightly better than average. In the second-early group of States the prospective acreage is about 18 percent smaller than the acreage planted a year ago but the condition of the crop as of April 1 is reported to be very good.

Carlot shipments of old potatoes have declined seasonally during recent weeks and totaled only slightly more than 3,200 cars during the week ended April 16. Approximately 70,000 cars were shipped between January 1 and April 16, indicating that about 15,000 cars remained to be shipped after that date. It is likely, therefore, that the weekly volume of shipments of old stocks will decrease sharply in the next month or 6 weeks. On the other hand, the expected sharp increase in the movement of new potatoes is likely to more than offset the decline in the carlot shipment of old stock.

Potatoes: Shipping point and terminal market prices per 100-pound sack, averages for specified weeks, 1937-38

Location and variety	Week ended -					
	1937	1938				
	Apr. 17	Mar. 19	Mar. 26	Apr. 2	Apr. 9	Apr. 16
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
<u>SHIPPING POINTS:</u>						
F.o.b. usual terms -						
Grand Rapids, Mich.	1.88	.94	.97	1.00	1.01	1.01
Stevens Point, Wis.	1.78	.75	.79	.80	.85	.85
Presque Isle, Me.	1.57	.92	.85	.80	.84	.77
Rochester, N.Y.	1.87	.94	.92	.91	.93	.97
<u>New Stock</u>						
Pompano, Fla.		1.50	2.06	2.04	1.98	1.76
Brownsville, Tex.	3.22	--	2.00	2.16	2.00	1.82
Hastings, Fla. 1/	3.03	--	--	2.42	2.22	1.82
F.o.b. cash track -						
Idaho Falls, Idaho	--	.64	.75	.76	.86	Closed
Cash to growers -						
Stevens Point, Wis.	1.66	.52	.57	.57	.63	.63
Presque Isle, Me.	1.36	.80	.71	.66	.67	.62
Rochester, N. Y.	1.53	.65	.70	.68	.70	.70
Idaho Falls, Idaho	--	.44	.53	.55	.62	Closed
<u>New Stock</u>						
Brownsville, Tex.	2.60	--	1.50	1.70	1.56	1.44
<u>TERMINAL MARKETS:</u>						
New York City -						
Excl. Russet Burbanks ...	2.31	1.45	1.45	1.40	1.46	1.44
Idaho Russet Burbanks ...	--	1.85	1.85	1.88	2.00	2.00
New potatoes 2/	1/3.08	2.35	2.87	3.26	2.82	2.38
Chicago -						
Excluding western stock...	2.28	1.08	1.12	1.16	1.16	1.11
Idaho Russet Burbanks ...	2.64	1.36	1.47	1.47	1.63	1.55
New potatoes	3.87	2.56	3.14	3.00	2.98	2.74

1/ Barrel price converted to 100 pounds.

2/ Bushel crate doubled.

TRUCK CROPS FOR MARKET

LIMA BEANS: Early supplies abundant. Acreage of early lima beans in Florida this year is nearly double that of last season, and the indicated yields are larger. The indicated crop of 335,000 bushels is slightly more than twice that of last year and far above the 1927-36 average. Demand has been active and wholesale market prices have been well sustained, although the usual price trend is downward from now until late summer when market supplies are usually the largest. Sales to jobbers in New York and Chicago recently have been made at \$3.50 to \$4 per bushel.

SNAP BEANS: Florida spring crop large. On an acreage much larger than that of 1937, Florida growers are harvesting a spring crop of snap beans indicated to total nearly 1,300,000 bushels. On the other hand, production of spring beans in Texas and California is considerably smaller this season than last, and the total for the 3 States is indicated to be around 2,180,000 bushels or slightly less than the 1937 spring crop. The preliminary report of plantings in the second-early group of (southern) States shows 29,500 acres, or 12 percent more than last season and 38 percent above average. April 1 condition was above average.

Recent market supplies of early snap beans have been large, and wholesale prices declined greatly since mid-February. The usual trend is sharply downward until the summer months. Car-lot shipments of snap beans (including some lima beans) from Florida have been exceeding 300 cars per week, or fully twice as many as at this time last spring.

BEETS: Supplies to be smaller. The second-early crop of beets, grown chiefly in Louisiana, is indicated to be only 283,000 bushels, a decrease of 6 percent from last year but still above the 10-year average. Wholesale market prices have held firmly during recent weeks, mainly because of relatively light supplies. The half-crates from Texas and other southern areas recently brought \$1.15 in large city markets.

CABBAGE: Record second-early crop. Increased plantings of cabbage in the second-early States and heavier yields per acre have resulted in an indicated crop of about 124,000 tons, setting a new record. Last year these States harvested 97,500 tons of cabbage, and their 10-year average production is about 85,000 tons. Mississippi expects a huge crop of some 37,000 tons, South Carolina about 28,000, and Georgia 21,000 tons. The other 3 States in this group also show substantial gains over last year. Shipments by rail or boat increased to 860 cars for the week ended April 16, mainly from South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, and Alabama. Georgia and Louisiana also were quite active, but movement from Texas was rapidly decreasing. Wholesale prices recently have been fluctuating within a narrow range, but the market has been fairly firm with prices not much below those of last spring.

CANTALOUPS: Season now opening. Most of the cantaloups to move from the Imperial Valley (California) and the Salt River Valley (Arizona) this spring and summer will be of the new mildew-resistant variety, which in recent years has proved to have very good market-quality. The first car of the season was shipped from Imperial Valley about April 15, considerably earlier than usual, and the movement will gradually increase. Acreage in the Imperial Valley is about 10 percent less than that of last year but condition of the crop in early April was much better than at the same time in 1937 and was slightly above average. Early cantaloups from Mexico recently have been selling on the New York wholesale market around \$4.50 per standard crate of 45 melons. Cantaloup prices may be expected to tend downward until the seasonal peak in marketings is passed in July or August.

CARROTS: Large spring crop in California. Slightly more than 4,800,000 bushels of spring-crop carrots are indicated as California's production this season - a 12 percent increase over last spring and one-third above the 10-year average. Louisiana and Mississippi also expect to have more carrots than last season, making a prospective total of 5,175,000 bushels for these three areas. About 450 cars per week were moving to market in mid-April, mostly from California, with smaller shipments from Arizona and Texas. Prices of carrots usually tend downward from February to July, but in early April a temporary advance occurred in wholesale prices. Western lettuce crates of carrots were jobbing around \$2.75 in the large markets.

CELERY: California spring season ending. The spring crop of celery in California turned out to be about one-third smaller than indicated, because of rather low yields. Only 839,000 crates were harvested, and the California shipping season is nearly finished until the light crop of summer celery begins to move. Of the 630 cars of celery which went to market during the third week of April, 580 originated in Florida and the remainder in California. The Michigan, New York, and Oregon crops usually start to move in late June when Florida celery is finished. Recent wholesale prices were higher than those of mid-March. The peak in celery prices is usually reached in June.

CUCUMBERS: Texas' early crop severely damaged. The indicated acreage of early cucumbers in Florida is about 13 percent larger than that of last year. In Texas, however, the cold wave during the second week of April severely damaged vines and also destroyed the cucumbers, so that the present indication is for only 2,300 acres to be harvested in Texas, compared with 7,300 acres last spring. The total of 6,800 acres of early cucumbers in these 2 States is 40 percent less than last season and nearly 50 percent below the 10-year average. Present indications are for an early crop of only 418,000 bushels, compared with 592,000 bushels in 1937 and 957,000 bushels, the average for 1927-36. The second group of early (southern) States has an indicated total of 11,150 acres of cucumbers, compared with 11,350 last season. Recent car-lot shipments of 250 cars per week from Florida are four times larger than those

of a year ago, and the mid-April average wholesale price of about \$2 per bushel was only one-third that prevailing a month earlier.

EGGPLANT: Recent supplies small. The early crop of eggplant in Florida, grown on 750 acres, is now indicated to be 300,000 bushels, or one-fourth more than in 1937. Market supplies recently have been very limited. Wholesale prices, while lower than in mid-March, were holding rather firmly around \$2 per crate in mid-April.

LETTUCE: Prices relatively high in city markets. Because of the plowing-up of about one-eighth of the spring lettuce crop in Arizona and the lateness of the California crop, actual market supplies have been somewhat limited, with recent car-lot shipments from Arizona totaling only 150 cars per week. Central California output had increased to about 500 cars a week and is due to increase further. In mid-April last year, Arizona was shipping 1,560 cars of lettuce within a 7-day period, and central California only 70 cars. The recently weekly rate of 665 cars compares with 1,635 cars a year ago. Total production of lettuce in these second-early States, including the small crops in the Carolinas, is now estimated at slightly over 7 million crates, about 9 percent more than last year's production and 37 percent above the 10-year average crop. Because of the delay in shipments from central California, however, wholesale prices of lettuce advanced to an exceptionally high level during late March and early April. The recent average in large city markets was around \$7.35 per crate of 4 to 5 dozen heads of western Iceberg type. A year ago the price was about \$2.75 per crate.

ONIONS: Early crop moving to market. Car-lot shipments of new-crop onions from southern Texas during the week ended April 16 amounted to 400 cars, or nearly double the preceding week's output, and the movement will continue to increase during the next few weeks. Indicated production in southern Texas this season is nearly 1,900,000 sacks (100 pounds each), or 6 percent more than the amount harvested last year. Louisiana also has slightly more onions than last season but southern California has one-fourth fewer. Shipments of old-crop northern onions from storage had dropped to 150 cars for the third week of April, and the season for old onions will soon be ended. Prices in large terminal markets reached a spring peak during early April and then declined slightly. The trend of onion prices is usually downward from now until October or November. Recent quotations from New York City showed old-crop yellow varieties selling to jobbers at \$1.30 per 50-pound sack, compared with new-crop Texas Yellow Bermudas at \$1.85, or slightly above last season's corresponding levels. Prices in Chicago were somewhat lower than those in New York and slightly below last spring's corresponding quotations.

GREEN PEAS: Smaller second-early crop. The sharply reduced acreage and rather low yields of green peas in parts of California outside the Imperial Valley have resulted in a relatively small indicated crop in that area of about 1,790,000 bushels or 28 percent less than the large crop last season and considerably below average. South Carolina and Louisiana expect more peas than

last year, but Mississippi may have a smaller crop. The entire group of second-early States has an indicated crop of 2,335,000 bushels, or one-fifth less than in 1937. Car-lot shipments recently have been increasing toward their spring peak, at which time prices usually are lowest. During the third week of April, shipments totaled about 160 cars, somewhat heavier than a year ago. California, Mississippi, and South Carolina were the main sources of supply. From the high point of early April, New York wholesale prices recently declined to \$3.30 per bushel of western peas and \$2.60 for the southern stock.

SPINACH: Texas' shipments finished. Southern Texas is the largest producing area for spinach. The season there is about finished, with a total of 4,250 cars shipped by rail or boat. Recent car-lot movement of 340 cars per week was mainly from the Norfolk section of Virginia and from Arkansas. Wholesale prices in New York City during mid-April averaged 60 cents and in Chicago 80 cents per bushel, but the trend of prices usually is downward from April to June, while the second-early States are shipping. The group of 9 second-early States has an indicated crop of only 2,380,000 bushels this year, 10 percent less than last season and 5 percent below average. The sharpest reduction this season is in Virginia where about 930,000 bushels are expected. The smaller second-early crop may tend to make the spring price decline smaller than usual.

TOMATOES: Early production very large. With April 1 condition of the tomato crop in the second section of early States much above that of last year and above average, and with acreage increased 55 percent above that of 1937, production of tomatoes in this group of States is now indicated to be 3,386,000 bushels. This would be 58 percent above last spring's crop in the second section of early States and 67 percent greater than the 10-year average production, probably establishing a new record. Acreage in the second-early group of States is indicated to be 64,490 acres, compared with 49,400 last summer and an average of only 37,430 acres.

Car-lot movement from Florida increased during the third week of April to about 1,030 cars, nearly four times as many as a year ago. Texas also was starting to move its spring crop. Imports from Mexico still totaled 250 carloads per week, so that the recent market supplies of tomatoes have been larger than those of any other vegetable except potatoes. Prices of tomatoes usually tend downward from April to September, and this trend apparently has already started, with wholesale prices in New York and Chicago declining considerably since early April. The recent average wholesale price has been around \$1.80 per lug box.

Truck crops: Commercial acreage and production for market, average
1927-36, annual 1937, and indicated 1938

Commodity and group	Acreage			Unit	Production		
	Average	1937	Prelim.		Average	1937	Indicated
	:1927-36	: 1937	: 1938		: 1927-36	: 1937	: 1938
	: Acres	: Acres	: Acres				
<u>Asparagus 1/</u>				1,000			
Calif.	65,580	67,260	71,510	crates:	2/ 6,825	3/ 6,499	
S.C. and Ga. ..	12,640	11,500	10,100	"	431	472	410
Total early ..	78,220	78,760	81,610	"	7,256	6,971	
Late, total ..	24,340	29,310	32,460	"	2,222	3,189	
Total	103,060	108,070	114,070	"	9,478	10,160	
<u>Beans, lima</u>				1,000			
Early (Fla.) ..	1,600	2,400	4,500	bu.	132	156	338
<u>Beans, snap</u>							
Fall	13,370	21,300	15,000	"	1,147*	2,006	1,475
Early (1)	15,720	28,900	30,000	"	1,412	1,792	2,100
Early (2)	28,630	23,400	27,150	"	2,427*	2,195	2,182
Second-early ..	21,500	26,400	29,500	"	1,328*	1,204	
4 groups	79,020	100,000	101,650	"	6,314*	7,197	
<u>Beets</u>							
Early	5,180	4,800	6,100	"	772*	744	824
Second-early ..	2,240	1,910	1,830	"	261*	302	283
2 groups	7,420	6,710	7,930	"	1,033*	1,046	1,107
<u>Cabbage 1/</u>							
Fall	1,010	2,800	2,100	Tons	6,500	19,500	13,600
Early	40,210	58,200	54,100	"	219,500*	276,500*	277,800
Second-early ..	15,760	18,600	21,400	"	84,900*	97,500	123,900
Intermediate ..	28,080	34,150	#34,600	"	163,800*	225,800	
Late, domestic:	37,670	41,960	#41,690	"	306,900*	291,100	
Late, Danish ..	36,650	37,090	#37,340	"	297,600*	262,500	
Total	159,360	192,800	191,730	"	1,082,200*	1,172,900*	
<u>Cantaloups</u>				1,000			
Early	37,350	30,190	27,700	crates:	5,511*	5,396	
<u>Carrots 1/</u>				1,000			
Fall	4,200	10,850	11,300	bu.	2,162	4,636	5,424
Early	9,070	9,000	9,300	"	1,669*	1,590	1,564
Second-early ..	9,570	11,670	13,600	"	3,949*	4,606	5,175
3 groups	22,840	31,520	34,700	"	7,780*	10,862	12,163
<u>Cauliflower</u>				1,000			
Fall & winter..	8,690	8,250	8,300	crates:	2,259*	2,479	2,274
Early	7,860	9,000	8,220	"	2,043	2,745	2,336
2 groups	16,550	17,250	16,520	"	4,302*	5,224	4,610
<u>Celery</u>							
Fall & winter..	6,940	10,300	9,700	"	1,282	1,700	1,843
Early	7,690	10,200	11,550	"	2,442*	3,153	2,947
Second-early ..	1,130	1,700	1,300	"	558*	850	644
3 groups	15,760	22,200	22,550	"	4,282*	5,703	5,434
<u>Cucumbers</u>				1,000			
Fall	1,420	1,600	1,300	bu.	112	64	98
Early (1)	12,740	11,300	6,800	"	957*	592	418
Early (2)	12,190	11,350	11,150	"	1,133*	1,139	
3 groups	26,350	24,250	19,250	"	2,252*	1,795	

Continued-

Truck crops: Commercial acreage and production for market, average
1927-36, annual 1937, and indicated 1938 - continued

Commodity and group	Acreage			Unit	Production		
	Average		Prelim.		Average		Indicated
	:1927-36:	1937	: 1958		: 1927-36 :	1937	: 1938
	: Acres	Acres	Acres				
<u>Eggplant</u>				1,000			
Fall	1,140	1,350	1,450	bu.	182	245	245
Early	870	600	750	"	261	240	300
2 groups	2,010	1,950	2,200	"	443	485	545
<u>Kale</u>							
Fall & winter.	1,860	1,050	1,050	"	640	430	441
<u>Lettuce</u>				1,000			
Early	45,040	35,200	39,200	crates:	5,428*	5,109	5,086
Second-early ..	45,740	50,000	55,250	"	5,173*	6,527	7,086*
2 groups	90,780	85,200	94,450	"	10,601*	11,636	12,172*
<u>Onions</u>				1,000			
Early	23,970	24,550	27,360	sacks	2,170*	2,129*	2,178
Intermediate ..	10,830	16,000	12,960	"	1,574*	2,524	
Late	52,630	52,330	#55,720	"	9,894*	10,360	
Total	87,430	92,880	96,040	"	15,638*	14,813*	
<u>Peas, green</u>				1,000			
Early	8,110	13,200	15,500	bu.	570	1,000	1,170
Second-early ..	37,640	46,470	38,510	"	2,569	2,938	2,335
2 groups	45,750	62,670	54,010	"	3,139	3,938	3,505
<u>Peppers, green</u>							
Fall	2,110	3,600	4,500	"	398	640	558
Early, Fla.							
winter	2,480	3,000	2,400	"	651	750	600
2 groups	4,590	6,600	6,900	"	1,049	1,390	1,158
<u>Shallots (La.)</u>		6,000	5,700	"	---	600	712
<u>Spinach</u>							
Fall	2,680	3,000	2,700	"	746	945	972
Early	35,410	53,800	49,800	"	7,300*	8,542	8,044
Second-early ..	8,720	9,160	8,300	"	2,507	2,650	2,380
3 groups	46,810	65,960	60,800	"	10,553*	12,137	11,396
<u>Tomatoes</u>							
Fall	4,700	10,700	9,000	"	300	522	730
Early (1)	12,280	17,200	17,300	"	1,486	1,617	1,730
Early (2)	27,640	27,300	42,700	"	2,024	2,146	3,386
Second-early ..	37,430	49,400	64,490	"	3,557	3,293	
4 groups	82,050	104,600	133,490	"	7,367	7,578	
<u>Watermelons</u>				1,000			
Early	35,210	27,500	29,000	melons:	12,614*	10,460	
Second-early ..	155,770	170,100#	171,400	"	36,319*	35,049*	
2 groups	190,980	197,600	200,400	"	48,933*	45,509*	
Total to date	:1,022,090						
		1,159,900					
			1,195,640:				

1/ Includes acreage and production for market and manufacture.

2/ Includes 4,532,000 crates for canning.

3/ Includes 4,266,000 crates for canning.

*/ Includes some quantities not harvested because of market conditions.

#/ Intended acreage, according to growers' early reports.

Truck crops: Wholesale prices at New York, averages for specified weeks,
1937-38

Commodity	Unit	Week ended -					
		1937	1938				
		Apr. 17	Mar. 19	Mar. 26	Apr. 2	Apr. 9	Apr. 16
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Asparagus, Calif.							
medium	Crate ...	2.79	7.29	5.77	5.00	4.98	4.15
Asparagus, south	Crate ...	2.15	3.83	3.46	2.79	3.12	2.83
Beans, lima, Fla.	Bushel ...	3.42	2.40	1.90	3.04	3.31	3.52
Beans, snap, Fla.							
green	Bushel ...	2.71	2.10	1.62	1.72	1.55	1.42
wax	Bushel ...	1/3.25	2.35	2.10	2.04	2.19	2.75
Beets, new, Texas	1/2-crate	1.36	1.10	.97	1.09	1.16	1.12
" old, topped	Bushel ...	1/.40	.45	.45	.47	.50	.53
Broccoli, western	Crate	3.42	2.75	2.46	2.38	2.68	2.79
" southern	Crate	2.21	2.12	1.67	1/1.50	1.62	1.54
Cabbage, southern	100 lbs...	2.59	2.39	2.04	2.28	2.40	2.10
Carrots, western	Letc. crt.	3.14	2.74	2.51	2.51	2.83	2.88
" southern	1/2-crate	1.31	.97	.89	1.11	1.28	1.44
" old, N.Y.	Bushel ...	.92	.77	.67	.62	.64	.77
Cauliflower, Calif.	Pyn. crt.	1.69	1.51	1.38	1.53	1.75	1.75
Celery, Fla.	Std. crt.	1.85	1.88	1.86	1.90	2.00	2.35
Cucumbers, Fla.	Bushel ...	2/3.44	6.42	5.06	3.29	2.02	2.04
Eggplant, med. Fla.	Crate	2/2.71	3/2.25	1/1.78	1.83	2.10	1.90
" " Cuba	Crate	1/3.12	1.71	1.73	1/2.00	2.12	1.75
Lettuce, Iceberg	4-5dz. crt.	2.85	3.45	4.23	4.71	6.38	7.48
" Big Boston	2-dz. crt.	1.23	--	.98	1.12	1.72	1.66
Onions, old, yellow	50-lbs...	1.03	1.01	.95	1.08	1.33	1.32
" Valencia	50-lbs...	--	1.63	1.88	1.82	1.90	--
" Yel. Bermuda	50-lbs. 4/	1.82	--	--	--	2/2.10	1.86
Peas, green, west.	Bushel ...	3.17	3.09	3.19	3.49	3.70	3.30
" " south	Bushel	2.67	2.23	2.37	2.80	2.79	2.59
Peppers, med. and							
large, Fla.	Crate	2.42	1.80	1.48	1.79	1.67	1.62
Spinach	Bushel ....	.67	.75	.66	.62	.56	.60
Sweetpotatoes	Bushel	1.42	1.10	1.04	.98	1.03	1.08
Tomatoes, Fla.	Lug box...	2.69	1.48	1.29	1.44	1.93	1.74
Turnips, new, N.C.	5-pk. hpr.	1.19	--	.83	.90	1.09	.92
" old	Bushel	--	.38	.38	.38	.38	--

1/ Average for 2 days.

2/ Fancy grade

3/ Average for 1 day.

4/ Commercial grade.

Truck crops: Wholesale prices at Chicago, averages for specified weeks,
1937-38

Commodity	Unit	Week ended -					
		1937	1938				
		Apr. 17	Mar. 19	Mar. 26	Apr. 2	Apr. 9	Apr. 16
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Asparagus, Calif. 1/	Crate	3.20	7.20	5.82	5.30	4.30	4.00
" south	Crate	2.12	4.70	3.48	3.45	3.23	3.25
Beans, lima, Fla.	Bushel....	2/3.75	2.91	2.44	2.22	3.38	3.98
Beans, snap, south....							
green	Bushel....	3.22	2.52	1.95	2.00	1.72	1.72
wax	Bushel....	---	3.17	2.34	2.55	2.00	2.32
Beets, new	1/2-crate...	1.28	.96	.92	1.09	1.14	1.08
" old, topped...	Bushel....	.25	.51	.47	.43	.58	.58
Broccoli, western...	Pny. crt...	3.18	2.32	2.02	1.34	1.92	2.22
Cabbage, domestic...	West. crt...	2.32	2.14	1.99	2.12	2.14	2.14
" "	1 1/2-bu. hpr	1.33	1.33	1.29	1.37	1.21	1.59
Carrots, western ...	Letc. crt	2.64	2.36	2.14	2.19	2.36	2.48
" Texas.....	1/2-crate...	1.20	1.08	.89	.78	--	--
" old crop ..	Bushel....	2/ .72	.30	.28	.25	.32	.32
Cauliflower, Calif...	Pny. crt.	1.43	1.34	1.28	1.20	1.47	1.52
Celery, Fla.	16-in. crt	2.40	2.18	1.97	2.18	2.41	2.34
Cucumbers, Fla.	Bushel....	3/4.22	6.46	5.53	4.32	2.42	2.20
Eggplant, Fla.	1 1/2-bu. crt	3/2.38	3.03	3.15	2.32	2.35	2.35
Lettuce, Iceberg....	4-5dz. crt	2.66	3.32	3.99	4.72	5.82	7.20
Onions, yellow, old...	50-lbs....	1.06	.86	.78	.66	1.22	1.02
" Yel. Bermuda....	50-lbs. 4/	1.97	--	--	--	1.35	1.57
Peas, green, Calif...	Bushel....	3.06	3.00	3.00	3.36	5/3.44	5/3.16
Peppers, green, Fla...	1 1/2-bu. crt	3/3.22	2.15	2.14	2.02	2.08	2.08
Spinach	Bushel....	.82	.58	.82	.95	.88	.80
Sweetpotatoes.....	Bushel....	2.21	1.13	1.10	1.13	1.12	1.20
Tomatoes, Fla.	Lug box...	6/4.52	1.52	1.40	1.56	2.06	1.38
Turnips, bunched....	Bushel ...	.94	.94	.87	.82	.96	1.07

1/ Excluding Imperial Valley

2/ Average for 2 days

3/ Fancy grade

4/ Commercial grade

5/ Fair quality

6/ Repacked

Truck crops: Car-lot (rail or boat) shipments from originating points in the United States, specified weeks, 1937-38

Week ended -				Week ended -			
Commodity	Apr. 17: 1937	Apr. 9: 1938	Apr. 16: 1938	Commodity	Apr. 17: 1937	Apr. 9: 1938	Apr. 16: 1938
	Cars	Cars	Cars		Cars	Cars	Cars
Asparagus	569	183	452	Greens	30	60	48
Beans, snap and:				Lettuce	1,636	643	663
lima	157	383	321	Mixed vgs.....	610	833	824
Beets	23	59	34	Onions, old ..	231	361	150
Cabbage	696	803	861	" new ..	418	203	339
Cantaloups	0	0	1	Peas, green ..	106	90	153
Carrots	420	442	462	Peppers, green:	50	120	76
Cauliflower	130	234	202	Spinach	377	268	342
Celery	461	641	628	Sweetpotatoes..	93	178	168
Corn, green	0	0	1	Tomatoes	290	957	1,062
Cucumbers	63	249	255	Turnips	5	4	4
Eggplant	6	9	12	Total	6,376	6,730	7,119

Note: The above table does not include shipments by motor-truck, nor the rather large imports of tomatoes, and imports of eggplant and rutabagas or turnips.

TRUCK CROPS FOR MANUFACTURE

As a consequence of the relatively large stocks of canned vegetables expected to be carried over into the 1938-39 season and the relatively low prices received for canned vegetables in the current season, the prospective 1938 acreage of 6 important crops for canning or manufacture is about 13 percent less than their combined planted acreage of last year. The prospective acreage of cucumbers for pickles is down 23 percent, sweet corn down 19 percent, tomatoes down 15 percent, and green peas down 5 percent. The acreage of snap beans and beets may show a very slight increase over that of last season. California spinach acreage has been reduced 40 percent.

Stocks of canned corn on April 1 were reported to be about three and one-third times those of a year earlier; stocks of canned snap beans were nearly four times those of April 1 last year, and canned tomatoes were about 40 percent more plentiful than at the same time last year. Canned peas stocks on the same date were about 90 percent greater than in 1937, and beets showed an increase of 30 percent. Stocks of canned lima beans, however, were slightly smaller than a year earlier.

Truck crops for manufacture: Prospective acreage in 1938, compared with earlier years

Commodity	Planted acreage 1/				Prospective
	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Beans, snap	47,860	51,730	57,570	68,570	69,820
Beets	7,840	9,010	10,080	13,530	13,740
Corn, sweet	323,590	418,990	443,720	452,850	363,270
Cucumbers for pickles..	89,670	103,740	100,250	119,480	91,630
Peas, green	230,390	341,360	337,500	353,170	334,920
Tomatoes	435,620	510,150	477,100	472,830	403,870
Total	1,184,970	1,434,930	1,426,220	1,480,430	1,282,250
	Harvested acreage				Prospective
Spinach, Calif.	13,420	13,410	12,970	16,720	10,000
Cabbage for kraut:					
contracted acreage	13,080	8,210	7,390	8,795	9,970
open-market	12,630	8,290	11,590	15,945	(?)
	25,710	16,500	18,980	24,740	
Total	39,130	29,910	31,950	41,460	

1/ Some of this planted acreage was lost before harvesting.